Making a Difference:
Educational Practices That Work!

Three days of intensive learning with educators who are making a difference for all students.

Wednesday, February 5 through Friday, February 7, 2014
Hershey Lodge and Convention Center
Are you wondering what great teachers and great administrators do differently?
Do you want to learn effective facilitation skills?
Are you looking for ways to support student learning through the use of technology?
This is the conference for you.

Keynotes

Beyond Classification
LeDerick Horne
As an entrepreneur and performance poet with a learning disability, LeDerick Horne provides a unique perspective on education reform and issues related to creating a more equitable society. This emotionally stirring talk is filled with moving verses and empowering information that will prepare you to challenge stereotypes, rethink pedagogy, and improve the lives of people with disabilities.

What Great Educators Do Differently
Todd Whitaker, Ph.D.
What are the specific qualities and practices of great educators that elevate them above the rest? Todd Whitaker reveals what the most effective teachers, coaches, principals, do differently from their colleagues. You will leave knowing why these things make these educators more effective and how to immediately implement each of these into your own classrooms and schools.

Capturing, Sharing, and Resolving Perplexity
Dan Meyer
Given the infinite buffet table of tools and technology to try out in the classroom, how do you decide what’s worth your and your students’ time? Without some kind of criteria guiding our selection, we’ll spend years building up a dusty closet of tools that looked good, promised a lot, and didn’t deliver. With that in mind, Dan Meyer will describe “perplexity,” one of the scarcest resources in the classroom, and how to select tools and technology to maximize it.

Networking Events

Ask the Bureau
This is your opportunity to meet and talk with Bureau of Special Education advisors. You are encouraged to ask questions related to special education issues.

Exhibit Hall
Explore the Exhibit Hall to discover new resources, technology, and services for you and your students.
- Attend the Welcome Reception.
- Visit displays and demonstrations that will spark your imagination.
- Join your colleagues for lunchtime discussion.

Poster Sessions
These sessions will highlight effective practices used by local education agencies and programs throughout the state.
- Assistive Technology
- Behavior
- Formative Assessment
- Membership, Participation, Learning
- Parent Engagement
- Special Education Leadership

Sessions

More information about the sessions and presenters is available at: tinyurl.com/pdesconference.

Join Pennsylvania’s educators for the Bureau of Special Education’s signature event. This annual, statewide conference offers an opportunity to learn and engage with nationally-known presenters, as well as colleagues from across the state, highlighting effective instructional strategies and interventions designed to make an educational difference for all students.

Arithmetic to Algebra Gap Interventions
Brad Witzel, Ph.D.

Culturally Responsive Teaching in a Multi-Tiered System of Support
Ana Sainz de la Peña

Developing Effective and Feasible Function-based Intervention Plans for Students
Rose Joannone, Ph.D., BCBA-D

Developing Sentence Skills in Students Who Struggle
William Van Cleave

Michael Stover, Paula Schmitt, and Joan Kester, Ed.D.

Effective Programming and Secondary Transition for Youth in Alternative Settings
David Domenici

Enhancing Family Engagement: How Do We Do It?
Becky Fogle, Karen Kanter, and Kelli Sendel

Frequent, Basic Skills Progress Monitoring for IEP Goals
Mark Shin, Ph.D.

Fundamental Facilitation Practices for Teamwork
Rhonda Bech Tyree

Implementing Effective Writing Instruction: Curriculum, Measurement, and Accommodations
Janet Sturr, Ph.D., CCC-SLP

Key Issues in Special Education Law: Present and Future
Perry Zirkel, Ph.D., J.D.

Learning Targets: Helping Students Aim for Understanding in Today’s Lesson
Connie Moss, Ed.D.

Modeling With Multimedia in the Math Classroom, Grades 6 to 12
Dan Meyer

My Students Can’t Write a Paragraph to Save Their Lives: Developing Paragraph Skills
William Van Cleave

National and State Perspectives on Education and Students Who Are Deaf-Blind
Amy Panner, Ed.D., COMS

Number Sense Interventions
Bradley Witzel, Ph.D.

Pieces of the Puzzle: Transition and Youth with Autism Spectrum Disorder
Joan Kester, Ed.D.

Positive Collaborations Between Home and School
Laura Kijfer, Ph.D.

Reading Comprehension: Beyond Strategies
Daniel Willingham, Ph.D.

Recurring Issues at Due Process
Andy Faust, Esquire and Kerry Voss Smith, Esquire

Research Shows Linking Spelling and Vocabulary is More Effective – This Is How It Works in the Classroom
Linda Farrell and Michael Huenet

RTI and Teacher Effectiveness
Lynn Holdheide, Ed.M. and Lindsey Hayes, M.Ed.

Statewide Assessment and Students With IEPs: Updates and New Instructional Resources
Christine Bomer, Ph.D. and Sharon Leonard

Targeted Multipliers: Keys to Multiplying the Impact of Your Therapy
Pam Hackett

Telepractice: Using Distance Technology to Connect, Communicate, and Enhance Language Learning in Children
K. Todd Houston

Tools for Easy, Accessible, Anytime Reading
Karen Narval

Using Data to Select Interventions for Struggling Readers: A Focus on Learning to Read and Reading to Learn
Lana Edwards Santoro, Ph.D.
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Parent Scholarships

The Bureau of Special Education and PaTTAN are pleased to offer a limited number of parent scholarships to Pennsylvania residents who are not employed in a professional capacity by any of the following: school, district, charter school, preschool program, IU, PTI, CPRC, or other funded educational or advocacy organization.

Parents of school-age (Kindergarten and up) students with a current IEP may apply. A partial scholarship includes the conference registration and the conference meals package; a full scholarship includes the conference registration, the conference meals package, and lodging for those who live 50 miles or farther from Hershey. All scholarship applications must be emailed or postmarked on or before December 13, 2013.

More information on parent scholarships, as well as session descriptions and presenter biographies, is available at: tinyurl.com/pdeconference

Registration Information

If you are staying overnight at the Hershey Lodge, meals will be included with your room. A Conference Registration fee of $75.00 will be paid to MCIU/PaTTAN. Early bird registration ends January 24, 2014. Beginning January 25, 2014, walk-in registration is $125.00. Out-of-state registration is $500 at any time.

If you are not staying at the Hershey Lodge, you will pay a Conference Registration and Meal Package fee of $150 to MCIU/PaTTAN. Early bird registration ends January 24, 2014. Beginning January 25, 2014, walk-in registration is $200.00. Out-of-state registration is $500 at any time.

Please mail your registration payment of either $75.00 or $150.00 to Debra Jordan, PaTTAN, 200 Anderson Road, King of Prussia, PA 19406. Checks should be made out to MCIU/PaTTAN; credit cards are not accepted.

Conference attendees may book a room/meal package at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center at $195.00 (single room per night) or $229.00 (per person/double room per night). Hershey Lodge reservations will be accepted at 800-437-7439.

Registration Questions:
Debra Jordan, djordan@pattan.net or 800-441-3215, ext. 7224

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Tom Corbett
Governor

Department of Education
Carolyn C. Dumaresq, Ed.D.
Acting Secretary
John J. Tommasini
Director, Bureau of Special Education

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Individuals attending this event must arrive on time and stay the duration of the event to receive Act 48 Professional Education hours. Requests for exceptions must be brought to the attention of the individual’s superintendent or IU director prior to the event.

Act 48
Clock Hours
up to 16

The Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network is approved by the Pennsylvania State Board of Psychology to offer continuing education for psychologists. PaTTAN maintains responsibility for the program(s). This workshop is offered for up to 16 CEs.

Act 48
Clock Hours
up to 16